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SUBJECT: COCKTAIL PARTY AT DR MARIA KLACHKO'S HOUSE,
29 Nov 1964

SOURCE : Dr K,E,St,No,G

Date : 1 Dec 1964

1. The party was arranged by Dr KLACHKO and PIDDUB-CHYSHYN Eve at their house. Participating in final arrangements of the party ,on the part of the guests from Ukraine ,was besides KOLOSSOVA Katerina also Dr V.LEVYTSKYI of New York who was in constant contact with KOLOSSOVA and the rest of the group accommodated at Governor Clinton Hotel.

From the hotel the guests were brought to Dr KLACHKO'S house by cars of Dr Klachko and MENDER Natalia (Wife of Prof MENDER of Columbia), in three tours,at approx. 15.30 hrs. The last to arrive was the boss herself - KOLOSSOVA - who came by taxi at 16.00 hrs accompanied by L.TOLOPKO , a known "progressive" of New York. TOLOPKO saw KOLOSSOVA only to the door and did not enter KLACHKO'S house. KOLOSSOVA excused herself for being late by saying that she was looking at a place somewhere in New York at which the progressives were planning to erect a Shevchenko-statue.

Other Soviet guests were :

YAROSHCHUK Yefim

BASH Yakiv

LEVCHUK Tymish

VILDE Irena

DUDYKEVYTCH Bohdan

KRYZHANIVSKYY Stepan

KOZAK Serhiy

MAYBORODA Hryhoriy

ZARUDNYY Mykola

DOBROVOLSKYY Victor

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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"With them" was also Dr V.LEVYTSKYI of New York .

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The invited New Yorkers were :

KOSTIUK Hryhoriy
STAKHIV Evhen
NOVYTSKYI Valentin
SHEREY and wife
HOLUBNYCHYY Vsevolod and wife
KERNYTSKYI Ivan
STASIUK Platon with his wife and daughter.

The hosts were :

Dr KLACHKO Maria
PIDDUBCHYSHYN Eve who were helped by
LIS Olga and
MENGER Natalia .

The party lasted from 15.30 or actually 16.00 to 18.50 hrs. KOLOSSOVA was evidently the boss, quite "magnanimous and liberal!" When after her arrival MAYBORODA remarked that they did not know what to do when Dr KLACHKO came to pick them up at the hotel and missed their boss also at the party, KOLOSSOVA half-jokingly replied: "Don't pretend, my secretary decided instead of me on the first problem, and as to the second - you should feel happy to have opportunity to talk to people without your boss".

Again , when Prof KOSTIUK suggested that he would like to meet with KRYZHANIVSKYY, his former student, next day, KOLOSSOVA took it for granted that they should meet and only added turning to KRYZHANIVSKYY "just take a colleague with you".

Before she arrived YAROSHCHUK was the one who played her role.

Drinks and food were served from the very beginning. The party was essentially social , devoted mainly to getting-better-acquainted. With a few exceptions "touchy" political subjects were avoided on both sides, and above all by guests.

Three times Prof KOSTIUK made "a political speech" and usually was interrupted in the middle by hosts and others. The guests indicated unequivocally they did not want to have

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a political meeting but came to enjoy themselves.

KOSTIUK began his first "expose" with welcoming them as Ukrainian brothers and a strong appeal to them to mind that in their hands lies the future of Ukrainian nation and it is their duty to do all possible to improve the lot of their compatriots there at home. He made some references to Stalin's time and expressed the hope that those times will never come again. He said a few sentences to the effect how willing the emigration is to help the Ukrainian intelligentsia at home, how happy he and other present were to have this opportunity to sincerely discuss "all pertinent problems" with the guests, aso, ~~af~~. Particularly he stressed that there was still very much to be improved in the Ukraine and he hoped those present will not shun their efforts to do so.

Along similar line ran his second and third "expose". The latter was triggered by a remark by KOZAK that although KOSTIUK had been a lecturer of KRYZHANIVSKYY he looked as young as his student and "was probably conserved in a refrigerator". KOSTIUK took this opportunity to declare that indeed he was kept in a refrigerator for 10 years in Siberia to what KRYZHANIVSKYY jokingly replied that "only for 5 and not 10", and KOZAK turned quite pale. KOSTIUK continued his critical remarks about the Soviet rule in the Ukraine until he was interrupted by Dr KLACHKO. In the meantime MAYBORODA volunteered to reply KOSTIUK but after KLACHKO'S interference to stop "politicizing", said that he did not want to act against the will of the hostess and therefore will keep quiet. Later on, on the side, MAYBORODA remarked to PIDUBCHYSHYN that KOSTIUK'S "speeches" were out of place; "whom is he telling about the Soviet rule under Stalin? My own father was shot, does he know how many of us were also persecuted deported aso?" "Why to spoil the atmosphere?"

There was singing and piano-playing by KOZAK and MAYBORODA and a lot of generalities and pleasantries exchanged. Contrary to YAROSHCHUK'S suggestion to sit in a circle, the party was broken up in twos and threes and so was done most of the talking.

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2. Dr LEVYTSKYI wanted to mediate in arranging a meeting at the Round Table Club but STAKHIV hinted that his interference was undesirable and he will handle this problem with KOLOSSOVA himself. The latter understood it at once and indicated to LEVYTSKYI to mind his own business. She seemed to feel happy STAKHIV addressed her at once as the boss and regarded him as her counterpart on the other side.

Asked about the purpose of their mission KOLOSSOVA replied that they came "just as tourists" within the framework of cultural exchange between the USA and USSR but would not mind to meet Ukrainian emigres as well. She would be particularly happy to meet them at the Round Table Club about which she had already heard so much from Dr LEVYTSKYI and others. She fully agreed with STAKHIV that there should be no progressives at that meeting and she assured him that there will be no problem whatsoever. (The same demand to exclude progressives from the meeting ~~was~~ was repeated by Dr KLACHKO, NOVYTSKYI and others to KOLOSSOVA and other members of the Soviet group.)

STAKHIV suggested as "a reciprocation" sometime in the future he hoped to be given a forum in Kiev to discuss all problems with cultural and political leaders of the Ukraine. He added that this was just a thought not a proposal moreover that who knows if he and other emigres would ever be able to return afterwards. KOLOSSOVA replied that she fully approved of such a "thought" and she could guarantee with her three sons that nothing happens to any emigre. "You will only pay your fare and we'll take care of everything else." "And we shall show you everything you want, there will be no restrictions, you will meet our cultural leaders, our politicians, our scholars." "And you can discuss anything you want".

As to the forthcoming meeting at the Round Table Club she also did not mind to be asked any questions and to discuss any topics hoping, of course, that there will be no "squabbles, offences ^{or} ~~and~~ other unpleasanties".

Otherwise, KOLOSSOVA was very reluctant to say anything substantial and obviously expected STAKHIV to do the talking.

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She did not ask any questions and only reacted to what was said by others, in this case STAKHIV.

When STAKHIV mentioned PIDSUKHA, she replied that he (PIDSUKHA) had told her about his meetings with STAKHIV and other emigres at one time in New York, and that now he was with Ukrainian Delegation to the UN General Assembly.

Asked whether she was a former guerilla as she looked like one, she denied it and added that during the WW II she was Director of a kindergarten in Ukraine taking care of 600 children. *the mother*

KOLOSSOVA impressed everybody as a very energetic, intelligent, and sensible woman with great diplomatic talent. Some comments and remarks by KOZAK, MAYBORODA and others only have substantiated this impression. According to KOZAK KOLOSSOVA'S husband is known in Kiev not as Com. KOlossov or a talented engineer with great awards received during WW II, but ^{simply} as "Kolossova's ~~husband~~ ^{man}". *understand*

In a tete-a-tete conversation with Dr KLACHKO, KOLOSSOVA confirmed that she had the reputation of a very energetic woman and added that she could assure Dr KLACHKO that there were only a few ladies in the entire Soviet Union with such powers and influences as she had. She said it "without any false pretences or pride" but as a matter of fact indicating that Dr KLACHKO should "hold with her" if they together wanted to do something.

3. In conversation with Dr KLACHKO, KOLOSSOVA said the following:

a/ Her group arrived formally as private tourists on an American initiative, to be more precise, on invitation of the Soviet American Friendship Society within a scheme ~~XXXX~~ approved by the State Department. Their mission ^{is} to meet

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their American friends' wish to organize a Ukrainian - American Friendship Society similar to the existing Soviet -American one. Asked whether the State Department had really anything to do with it, KOLOSSOVA assured that the initiative had come from the State Department which seemed to be interested in establishment of a Ukrainian-American Society mentioned above.

She did not, however, pay too great an importance to this initiative because on the other hand she and her colleagues in Kiev were having "thousands" of instances indicating a negative attitude on the part of State Department to any development of cultural exchange with Ukraine. This applied not only to the State Department itself but also to all kind of private institutions like HUROK and others who prefer to make deals with Russians in Moscow and neglect completely Ukrainians.

b/ Developing this point KOLOSSOVA said that they needed also some help from people like Dr KLACHKO and others to promote American - Ukrainian cultural contacts. In her opinion emigres should help Soviet Ukrainians to open doors and present "Ukrainian matters" to American political, cultural, and scientific organizations and institutions and thus contribute positively to elevating "Ukrainian matters" on American forum. KOLOSSOVA stressed again that they had great obstacles to overcome - ~~which were~~ those put by the State Department and by the ignorance of American public.

When Dr KLACHKO mentioned that KOLOSSOVA and her friends could have a press conference with a correspondent of "The New York Times" and that she could also arrange for a similar interview with a TV Station, KOLOSSOVA replied that at this moment she

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thought such interviews too premature, she did not want to make too much noise around her group, and in somewhat mysterious way added that she and her friends were also having some obstacles at home as well. Therefore it was better to proceed slowly but firmly.

c/ Then KOLOSSOVA asked Dr KLACHKO whether people like Dr KLACHKO and those present at the cocktail-party would be really ready to help their compatriots in the Ukraine to promote "Ukrainian cause" in America. "We don't want them to be pro-Soviet, just on the contrary; we don't want to change their political convictions, we only want that they have an objective approach to the Soviet Ukraine, understand our problems, and help us in common cause".

She doesn't want to rush things, either. As a first step she would like to have a group of Ukrainian emigre cultural and political leaders come to Kiev and discuss various problems but above all to get acquainted with Ukraine. Should it be impossible to organize political leaders or rather representatives of political emigre world then one should get at least cultural leaders, a dozen of them or more. She hoped that she could count on Dr KLACHKO'S "active help". In other words Dr KLACHKO would have to organize such a group.

d/ Referring to the cocktail-party KOLOSSOVA stressed several times that she was very happy and satisfied about the party having turned out so successfully. She had to admit that she never expected it "to be that good". She was very much impressed by Dr KLACHKO and she hoped they will remain very good friends for ever. She commended highly and appreciated deeply what

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Dr KLACHKO did for her by inviting such nice people to the party and by agreeing to help her in "developing further contacts with emigration". KOLOSSOVA praised also STAKHIV and NOVYTSKYY. They were gentlemen and "politically articulated". She had even a good word for Prof KOSTIUK, she fully understood his grudge against the Soviet system. Finally, under the Stalin -rule, she herself together with her family slept many nights with packed suitcases being prepared for a knock on the door by the NKVD.

Turning to the planned meeting at the Round Table Club she hoped it would be successful and there won't be any scandals though she was prepared for everything.

e/ LEVISHCHENKO has not come because the US-authorities refused to grant him a visa. He already was in Moscow. She regretted that very much but couldn't help. Just another example how the State Department "impedes everything Ukrainian".

4. KRYZHANIVSKYY was mostly in company of HOLUBNYCHYY. He told HOLUBNYCHYY that the arson in the National Library in Kiev in May was performed by a male employee of the library who was sentenced to 10 years. The arsonist was normal, the medical check found no mental defections. This was "a deliberate arson" therefore no explanations about it were to be expected. At least 10% of Ukrainistics were destroyed.

They also discussed literary situation in Ukraine. K'S line : we do whatever we can. There is still much to be improved and they are fully aware of that. There are obstacles ,too. He did not elaborate but limited himself to general statements. He was happy he could participate in the cocktail party and meet emigres. " We need such meetings, they are necessary..."

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5. All guests were very happy and delighted about the cocktail - party. MAYBORODA stressed to KLACHKO and PIDUBCHYSHYN that they could not even imagine how meaningfull and important (the guests) such meetings were for them. He will never forget what he lived through at KLACHKO'S house. He finally met real emigres, real people ,his brothers.

Of same opinion^{and} full of gratefulness were DOBROVOLSKYYI, VILDE. The latter was very happy to see KERNYTSKYY. He gave her some of his books. There was talking and tears , VILDE tried to telephone a relative of herⁱⁿ Trenton but failed. DOBROVOLSKYY phoned HIRNIAK, he wanted to talk to him and to see him. He hoped actually to see^{him} at the party .

Discussing the present situation in the Ukraine at one moment he lowered his voice and said : "I can assure you that there is nothing and nobody in the world that could break us. The Ukrainian people will not let themselves to be destroyed."

Whenever a political topic was raised and became touchy VILDE used to "discharge" it by asking to stop "squabbling" and agree that " we are Moscow's agents and you are agents of W_ashington". This phrase seemed to be a frequent refrain in her conversations on politics.

At one moment PIDUBCHYSHYN were taking out some additional cutlery. KOZAK saw it and was terribly surprized by the amonnt of forks and knives. Later on he called MAYBORODA , opened the cabinet and said: " Look how a peasant's daughter lives in the capatalistic America. A? " MAYBORODA only nodded with his head.

YAROSHCHUK was very proud of being called a "governor of Volyhnia". He asked everybody to visit him in Volyhnia.

Quite simple, inarticulated, robust he seems to be a typical selfassured, somewhat boyish apparatchik.

DUDYKEVICH was quite reserved , "detached", uncommitted, a typical pre-war Galician petty bourgeois , full of compliments and pleasantries, smooth, loyal to official line.

ZARUDNYI was somewhat uneasy in the beginning , then warmed up. Strong, "attractive," a former boxer he tried to mingle with everybody for a while and observed.

LEVCHUK was also quite "detached" and observing . When KRYZHANIVSKYY was given books by STAKHIV the former showed them at once to LEVCHUK.

Both - ZARUDNYI and LEVCHUK - seemed to be watching the others.

KOZAK made impression of a "political artist". Well versed with political problems, alert, intelligent, loyal to the regime at least on the surface but with full understanding of its real nature, careerist. Singing and good living seem to be his main preoccupation ranging above everything else. Likes women.

They all were very grateful for being at the party and there was no doubt that their thankfulness was genuine for whatever motives.

6. KRYZHANIVSKYY was given by STAKHIV "Panorama" by Koshelivets, the other book by Koshelivets ("Suchasna literatura...") he returned pointing out that he has already read it.

BASH took from STAKHIV "Suchasna Literatura.." by Koshelivets and "Lehkosynia Dal".

Hostesses and ^{some} New Yorkers were given some small gifts like small china figures and books. The Soviet guests excused themselves that on Saturday they had already a party and spent there most of their gifts. They referred to the meeting with progressives.